



FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

4375 Foothill Road Pleasanton, CA 94566

Quick Links [Intro & Overview](#) [Updates & Changes](#) [FAQ'S](#)
[Woodwind Camp Schedule](#) [Brass Camp Schedule](#) [Percussion Camp Schedule](#) [Guard Camp Schedule](#)

INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

July 11, 2020

Hello Foothill Band Families:

I hope that you are all in good health as we approach the beginning of the school year. Like many of you, I am not fully clear on what the start of our school year will look like and am also not clear on what our marching band season will be. There are, however, a few things I have decided in order to move forward with some sense of clarity. The ramp up for every part of our marching program (design, logistics, uniforms, budget) is contingent on informed and early decision making and that window is rapidly closing. At this time last year I could give you detailed information about all of our plans for the next 4 months. As we have all been experiencing a not so typical summer, that has become almost impossible to do with all of the information that keeps changing on an almost daily basis.

Based on what we know at this point, we will be moving forward with plans as outlined below. This direction will be done following the most current guidelines and recommendations from the Alameda County Public Health Department ([linked here](#)) in coordination with PUSD. The following plans consider our priorities in organizing marching band activities through the following steps.

- 1. Maintain Health & Safety**
- 2. Provide Community & Instruction**
- 3. Consider Product & Performances**



FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

4375 Foothill Road Pleasanton, CA 94566

UPDATES & CHANGES

- Band Camp will be optional and held in a HIGHLY modified format to allow for the directors to meet with the students in person before the start of the school year. The staff and I realize the importance of the time together before the start of the school year, especially for the freshman. The modified format will meet **Health & Safety** standards while allowing us to provide the **Community & Instruction** components for all of our members. More details are offered later in this letter.
- Our regular marching band practice schedule will be modified so it meets the **Health & Safety** standards. More information on a modified schedule will be provided as soon our district releases their plans for the upcoming school year schedule.
- The competitive field show, “LUNA”, planned for Fall 2020, will be shelved until Fall 2021. Properly preparing this show falls under the **Product & Performance**. I would like the opportunity to see the LUNA program meet its fullest potential during a more traditional band season.
 - *Plans are in place for a new show for this fall that will provide a flexible product for teaching the skills necessary to keep our marching program strong. This show will be scheduled for release in the very near future.*
- Local competitive circuits (WBA and NCBA) will be cancelling their scheduled events (**Product & Performance**) before, if not soon after, this email.
- While we may not be able to attend in person events, we are exploring options available to us about virtual performances for our members ranging from festivals, honor bands, Solo & Ensemble, Clinics so that we may continue to develop our **Product** while giving us **Performance** opportunities.
- Current social distancing guidelines on transportation will hinder the group traveling anywhere safely in the foreseeable future. There is not a safe way to commit the resources necessary for design, staffing, transportation and lodging to meet the **Health & Safety** threshold of transporting the band and equipment off of our campus given the challenges of transporting the band safely on buses while social distancing (this might take up to 10 charter buses) . Should conditions change in the future, we retain the organizational flexibility to add things as is allowed.
- I have made the decision to cancel the 2020 Foothill Band Review to eliminate any uncertainty and allow us to focus on our students. Cancelling the 46th Annual Band Review helps us maintain the **Health and Safety** of our members and their families. I'm sure this comes as no surprise given our current reality but I can not risk 50-60 schools coming to our schools without thinking about what's most important to our families.



FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

4375 Foothill Road Pleasanton, CA 94566

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the point of having a marching band season if we can't do any of the things we normally do?

We get the nature of this question. Marching band provides so much more beyond the performances and competitive aspects of our season. Many of the students come back year after year because of the relationships they make and the connections those relationships provide. The student leadership team and Directors are committed to providing in-person and online sessions to help us provide the **Community & Instruction** that is crucial to our students social and emotional learning. We want to emphasize the need for consistency and developmental training which will set us up for success in the following year.

Even with small groups and social distancing guidelines in place for band camp, what if I don't feel comfortable having my child participate?

That is absolutely ok. As is always the case, we want EVERY student to feel like they have a way to be involved in the band. If in-person instruction is not something you are comfortable with, for any reason, your child can continue to be a part of band activities that are happening online. Our goal is to ensure that we are building a bridge from this fall to next fall by keeping our community and instruction strong.

Can I still participate in the marching band if on the Flex Schedule?

Yes. I understand the difficult decisions we are all making in regards to instructional models for the fall and I can assure that I am doing everything possible to keep our 3 priorities the main focus.

What can we do as Parents to help?

Think about ways to donate your time to the program. This is a perfect time to get involved and share any ideas you might have. Losing the Band Review is a hard pill to swallow as it's our largest fundraiser of the year. The Boosters are here and ready to listen and try any new fundraising ideas for 2020-2021 school year. The pivot to an adjusted Fall Season is an opportunity for parents to help become a shadow to some crucial positions for our Booster Organization with no pressure whatsoever on making a full time commitment. Our Booster program is still very much active in the day to day processes of our program and WE WANT YOU! Please reach out to our Booster President, [Holly Crane](#), or our Vice President, [Jeannette Woo](#) for more information.

Will fair share be similar to last year?

Absolutely not. We will have less expenditures as we move through our 2020-2021 school year but we still need to make sure that we are providing our students with world class coaches (both in and out of the classroom) throughout the year. We ask that you please make every effort



FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

4375 Foothill Road Pleasanton, CA 94566

possible to contribute to the 2020-2021 fair share for our program, especially with our loss in fundraising opportunities.

What do I do if I need a school instrument / equipment?

Please [email me](#) before the start of camp so we can have one ready for you. Percussionists and Guard members can expect to have equipment ready for them on the first day of camp. More specific details on what to bring will be released as we approach the start of band camp.

As with any decisions made at this time there are likely many questions. I will host a [Zoom Q&A session on Tuesday, July 14th at 5pm](#). In the meantime, please [email me](#) with any concerns so we can address them as necessary.

I stand ready to ensure the health and safety of each band member while providing the sense of community that the students need. As always we are in this together.

With much gratitude and appreciation for all that you do,

Mr. Hinojosa
Director Of Bands

BAND CAMP SCHEDULE: Woodwinds

Dates: August 3 - August 8, 2020	Check-In: Breezeway in front of Band Room
10:00 AM	Camp Begins @ Stadium
12:00 PM	Snack Break (in bubbles)
12:30 PM	Camp Resumes @ Upper Field
3:00 PM	Camp Ends

*schedule subject to change

Guidelines

- Return [this](#) form at the first session you are scheduled to attend. **NO FORM = NO CAMP**
- Complete the home health screening [here](#)
- Students will have temperature checked by PUSD employee at Check-in
- Students will be assigned a social bubble when they arrive
- Students will be in their bubble of 12 members for all instruction until different guidelines are given



FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

4375 Foothill Road Pleasanton, CA 94566

- No shared food or water
- No shared equipment / instruments
- Students will wear masks unless playing their instrument

BAND CAMP SCHEDULE: Brass

Dates: August 3 - August 8, 2020	Check-In: Breezeway in front of Band Room
1:00 PM	Camp Begins @ Stadium
3:30 PM	Snack Break (in bubbles)
4:00 PM	Camp Resumes @ Upper Field
6:00 PM	Camp Ends

*schedule subject to change

Guidelines

- Return [this](#) form at the first session you are scheduled to attend. **NO FORM = NO CAMP**
- Complete the home health screening [here](#)
- Students will have temperature checked by PUSD employee at Check-in
- Students will be assigned a social bubble when they arrive
- Students will be in their bubble of 12 members for all instruction until different guidelines are given
- No shared food or water
- No shared equipment / instruments
- Students will wear masks unless playing their instrument

BAND CAMP SCHEDULE: Percussion

Dates: August 3 - August 8, 2020	Check-In Location: in front of MP
12:00 PM	Camp Begins
2:30 PM	Snack Break (in bubbles)
3:00 PM	Camp Resumes
5:00 PM	Camp Ends

*schedule subject to change



FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

4375 Foothill Road Pleasanton, CA 94566

Guidelines

- Return [this](#) form at the first session you are scheduled to attend. **NO FORM = NO CAMP**
- Complete the home health screening [here](#)
- Students will have temperature checked by PUSD employee at Check-in
- Students will be assigned a social bubble when they arrive
- Students will be in their bubble of 12 members for all instruction until different guidelines are given
- No shared food or water
- No shared equipment / instruments
- Students will wear masks

BAND CAMP SCHEDULE: Color Guard

Dates: August 3 - August 8, 2020	Check-In Location: Outside Small Gym (Band Side)
12:00 PM	Camp Begins
2:30 PM	Snack Break (in bubbles)
3:00 PM	Camp Resumes
5:00 PM	Camp Ends

*schedule subject to change

Guidelines

- Return [this](#) form at the first session you are scheduled to attend. **NO FORM = NO CAMP**
- Complete the home health screening [here](#)
- Students will have temperature checked by PUSD employee at Check-in
- Students will be assigned a social bubble when they arrive
- Students will be in their bubble of 12 members for all instruction until different guidelines are given
- No shared food or water
- No shared equipment
- Students will wear masks